MARVEL
MK
MARVEL COMICS
DAREDEVIL
BATTLIN' JACK MURDOCK
ZEB WELLS • CARMINE DI GIANDOMENICO
issue number one of four

AND I PICKED A HELLUVA' DAY TO DO IT.
AFTER THREE DECADES IN THE RING AND MORE BROKEN NOSES THAN I CAN COUNT, I'VE MADE IT ALL THE WAY TO MADISON SQUARE GARDEN...
...AND A SHOT AT THE HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE WORLD.
AND I FEEL GOOD. I'M STRONG. I CAN WIN THIS FIGHT.
BUT MY CUT MAN SMILES AT ME AND TELLS ME NOT TO BE STRONG... NOT TO BE STUPID.
AND I GOTTA LISTEN, 'CUZ I GOT A SON WHO HAD AN ACCIDENT.
I GOT A SON THAT CAN'T TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF.
GOT A SON THAT'S WEAK.
SO TONIGHT I GOTTA BE WEAK.
WEAK FOR MY BOY.

Y'SEE, BEING STRONG IS ONE THING, BUT IT WORK FOR MEN WITH POWER.
I GOT THE STRENGTH TO WIN THIS FIGHT, BUT THE FIXER--THE MAN WHO SET UP THIS FIGHT--HE HAS THE POWER TO TAKE MY SON.
AND HE AIN'T BETTIN' ON ME.
BUT THE ROAR OF THE CROWD MAKES ME WANT TO SHOW 'EM...THAT I'M GOOD ENOUGH...
...THAT I'M NOT JUST SOME BUM FROM HELL'S KITCHEN...
EVEN THOUGH THERE'S MATT...
MATT, WHO LEANS FORWARD LIKE HE CAN SEE AND BREAKS MY HEART.
MATT, WHO'S BRAVE, BUT WEAK.

DING!
AND THAT'S WHAT I GOTTA BE.
BRAVE BUT WEAK.
WHOOSH
WHOOSH
BUT NOT UNTIL ROUND FOUR.
KRACK

THAT'S A GOOD LOOK, CHAMP.
LOOK TELLS ME YOU DON'T KNOW YOU'VE ALREADY WON THE FIGHT.
IF YOU KNEW, YOU'D BE SMILIN' LIKE THE FIXER.
THE FIXER, HE KNOWS EVERYTHING.
TAUGHT ME HOW THE WORLD WORKS.
THAT'S WHY I MAKE MATT STAY INSIDE. I WANT HIM TO LEARN FROM BOOKS...
NOT FROM MEN LIKE THE FIXER.
YOU GOTTA BE CAREFUL WHO TEACHES YOU ABOUT THE WORLD.

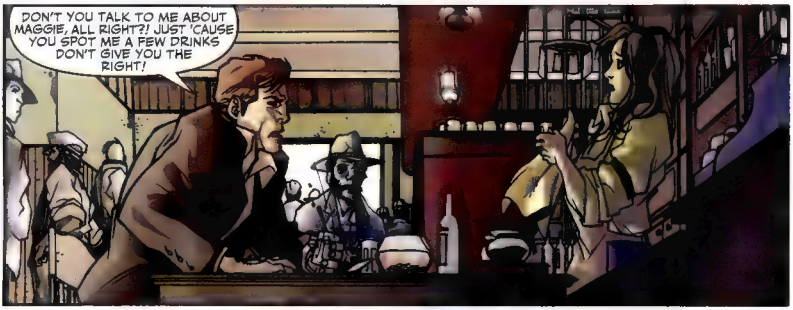
WALSH'S
WALSH'S LIQUORS
Y-YOU CAN'T JUST COME BARGING IN HERE!
YEAH, YOU'VE GOT A POINT THERE. BUT THAT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT THERE'S A LARGE MAN, IN YOUR STORE, WITH A CLUB.
THIS IS AGAINST THE LAW!
I KNOW, I KNOW. BUT LAWS ARE IDEAS, MR. WALSH. MEN LIKE ME, WE DEAL IN FACTS.
AND THE FACT IS, THERE'S A LARGE MAN IN YOUR STORE, WITH A CLUB.
I-I'LL CALL THE POLICE!
REALITY, MR. WALSH. THE POLICE ARE NOT HERE NOW. THEY ARE AN IDEA IN YOUR HEAD...
IDEAS... LAWS...
THEY DON'T MEAN AS MUCH AS A MAN WITH A CLUB.

I BREAK MY BACK EVERY DAY FOR MY MONEY!
AND YOU DEGENERATES THINK YOU CAN COME IN HERE AND JUST TAKE IT!
JACK! HOW COULD YOU COME TO THIS?!
IF MAGGIE COULD SEE YOU NOW...
I KNEW THAT GIRL WAS TOO GOOD FOR YOU...
WHAT DID YOU SAY?

WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
STOP!!
P-PLEASE... I'M BEGGING YOU. MAKE HIM STOP.
THAT'S ENOUGH!
YOU HAVE UNTIL MONDAY, MR. WALSH.
BASTARDS...

THAT WAS UNPROFESSIONAL, MURDOCK.
SORRY... LOST MY HEAD FOR A MINUTE.
DO YOU THINK I COULD GET MY MONEY NOW...?
ARE YOU KIDDING? YOU KNOW I DON'T PAY YOU PERSONALLY. I'LL SEND THE KID BY LATER.
AH, COME ON, BOSS. JUST ENOUGH FOR A LITTLE DRINK...
ARE YOU DEAF, YOU %$#$ING DRUNK?
I SHOULD HAVE YOU PUT IN THE RIVER FOR BUSTING UP THAT SHOP WHILE I WAS THERE!!
YOU THINK I WANNA GET POPPED FOR ASSAULT AND BATTERY?!
JEEZ, MURDOCK. YOU DRANK YOUR WAY OUT OF THE RING...YOU GONNA DRINK YOUR WAY OUTTA THIS GIG TOO?

THIS IS ALL I GOT.
THAT'S OKAY, I'LL PUT IT ON YOUR TAB.
THANKS, JOSIE.
SO, CHAMP... HOW'S THE LEFT HOOK?
LOOKS LIKE IT STILL WORKS.
YOU KNOW A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT YOU, JACK.
SAYIN' YOU'RE THROWIN' YOUR LIFE AWAY...
...SAYIN' THAT GIRL MIGHTA BROKE YA...

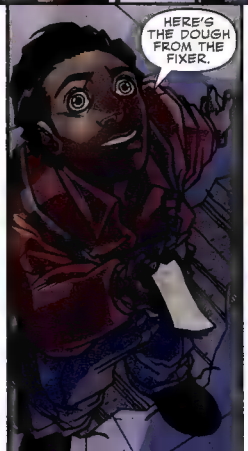

DON'T YOU TALK TO ME ABOUT MAGGIE, ALL RIGHT?! JUST 'CAUSE YOU SPOT ME A FEW DRINKS DON'T GIVE YOU THE RIGHT!

I-I'M SORRY, JOSIE...THANKS FOR THE DRINK. I'M GONNA PAY YOU JUST AS SOON AS I GET A LITTLE MONEY.

SURE YOU WILL, JACK.
I'M SERIOUS, JOSIE...THAT'S A PROMISE.

YO, BATTLIN' JACK!

NO ONE CALLS ME THAT ANYMORE, KID.


HERE'S THE DOUGH FROM THE FIXER.

HEY, HOW ABOUT YOU TAKE ME ALONG ON YOUR NEXT JOB?
I DON'T THINK SO, KID. I'M SURE YOU CAN FIND YOUR WAY TO JUVIE ON YOUR OWN JUST FINE...

THE NAME'S "TURK," YOU BURN-OUT! YOU THINK YOU'RE BETTER THAN ME?
"BURN-OUT"?
THAT'S WHAT THE BOSS SAYS...THAT'S WHAT EVERYBODY SAYS...
YOU'LL BE WORKING FOR ME BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!
JOSIE

MAGGIE? Y-YOU CAME BACK...
JACK...NO. I NEED YOUR HELP.
MY HELP? WHAT ARE YOU--

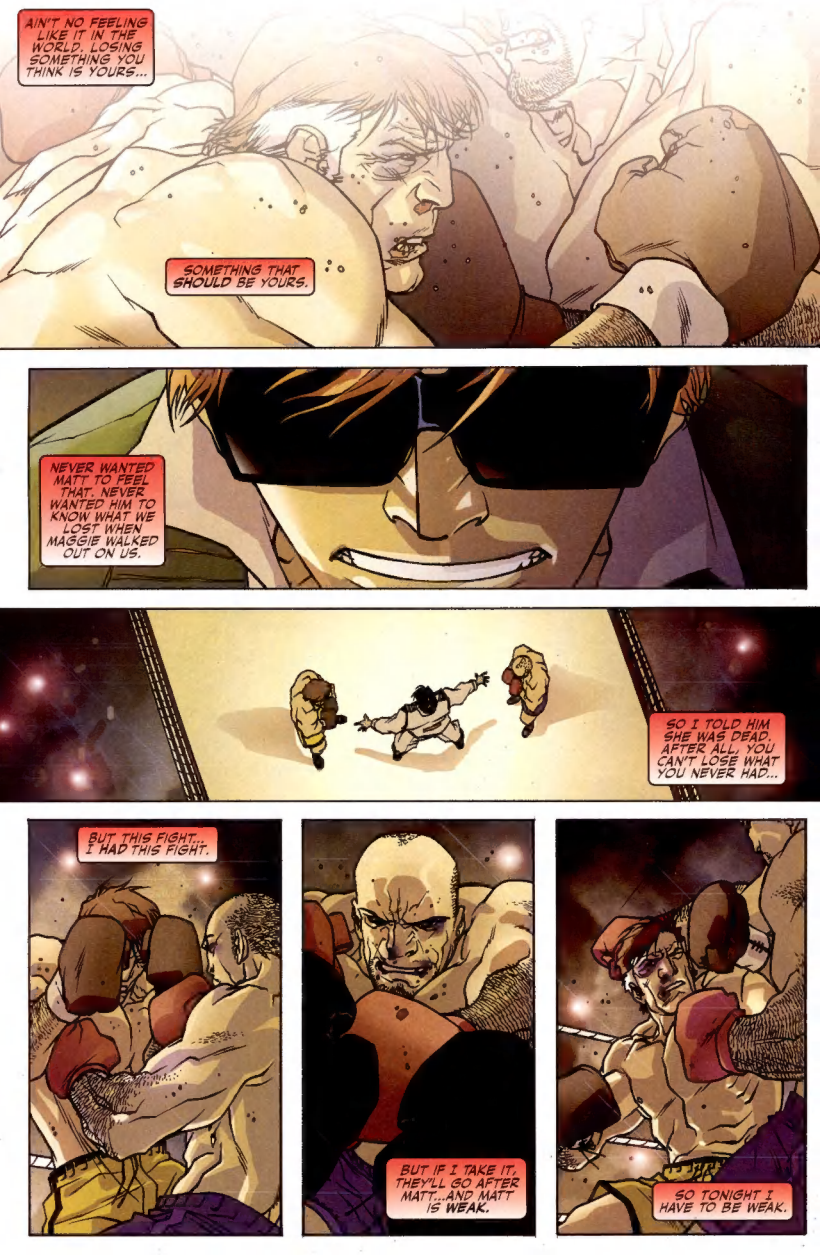
IS THAT...?
YES.
THAT'S WHY YOU TOOK OFF!
THAT'S WHY YOU DISAPPEARED! HA HA!
WHAT WERE YOU AFRAID OF, MAGGIE? THAT I'D MAKE YA GET RID OF THE BABY?!
AH, SWEETIE. WE CAN MAKE IT WORK...THE IMPORTANT PART IS YOU CAME BACK!
JACK, PLEASE...THAT'S NOT IT.

IF MY FATHER FOUND OUT ABOUT MATTHEW...
YOU NAMED HIM ALREADY?
THE SISTERS DID.
SISTERS?
MAGGIE, WHAT DID YOU DO?
W-WE MADE A MISTAKE, JACK. WE SINNED AGAINST GOD.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT?!
Y-YOU'RE THE ONLY THING I'VE GOTTEN RIGHT, MAGGIE!
WHAT WE DID'S THE ONLY GOOD THING I'VE EVER BEEN A PART OF...
DON'T TELL ME IT WAS WRONG, MAGGIE... DON'T TELL ME IT WAS A SIN...
NO WAY THAT COULD HAVE BEEN A SIN...
IT'S THE LORD'S WAY, JACK.

OH, MAGGIE, YOU'RE KILLIN' ME...
MAGGIE!!!
DON'T DO THIS.
DON'T DO THIS!!

I WON'T LET YOU, I'LL--
WAAAAH!!
I'LL...
WAAAAH!!


AIN'T NO FEELING LIKE IT IN THE WORLD. LOSING SOMETHING YOU THINK IS YOURS...
SOMETHING THAT SHOULD BE YOURS.
NEVER WANTED MATT TO FEEL THAT. NEVER WANTED HIM TO KNOW WHAT WE LOST WHEN MAGGIE WALKED OUT ON US.
SO I TOLD HIM SHE WAS DEAD. AFTER ALL, YOU CAN'T LOSE WHAT YOU NEVER HAD...
BUT THIS FIGHT... I HAD THIS FIGHT.
BUT IF I TAKE IT, THEY'LL GO AFTER MATT...AND MATT IS WEAK.
SO TONIGHT I HAVE TO BE WEAK.

DING!
TONIGHT I HAVE TO GO DOWN IN THE FOURTH.
AIN'T NO FEELING LIKE IT IN THE WORLD...
LOSING SOMETHING THAT SHOULD BE YOURS.
END ROUND ONE.

NEXT ISSUE:

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